

## WE CLAIM:

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5 ~~1. A dispenser for storing and dispensing a plurality of separably joined wipes, comprising:~~

~~a cartridge comprising a bottom wall and at least one side wall extending from the bottom wall, the walls connected together to define a chamber and an opening in the chamber located at a top portion of the side wall opposite the bottom wall;~~

10 ~~a cover removably self-fastenable to the top portion of the side wall, the cover and cartridge cooperating to seal the plurality of separably joined wipes in the chamber; and~~

15 ~~an elongated dispensing passage disposed adjacent the top portion of the side wall wherein wipes from the plurality of separably joined wipes can be dispensed from the chamber by the wipes passing directly between the cover and the top portion of the side wall and out the dispensing passage when the cover is fastened to the cartridge.~~

20 ~~2. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein the elongated dispensing passage comprises a rib projecting from a wall of the passage.~~

25 ~~3. The dispenser of claim 2 wherein the rib extends a length of the elongated dispensing passage.~~

~~4. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein the elongated dispensing passage extends a length co-extensive with a width of the wipes.~~

30 ~~5. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein the elongated dispensing passage is formed in the cover.~~

~~6. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein the top portion of the side wall comprises a lip extending about the top portion of the side wall and the cover is attachable to the lip in at least two locations about the lip.~~

7. The dispenser of claim 6 wherein the cover provides at least a double seal about a perimeter of the lip except at the elongated dispensing passage.

8. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein the plurality of separably joined wipes are formed in a roll.

9. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein the plurality of separably joined wipes are wet wipes.

10. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein a seal is secured across the opening of the chamber and locatable between the top portion of the side wall and the cover.

11. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein the cartridge is independently mountable in a separate dispenser without use of the cover and whereby wipes within the chamber can be dispensed from the separate dispenser.

12. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein the cartridge comprises:

- four side walls;
- each side wall having a top and a bottom;
- each side wall having a length and a depth;
- the cartridge having a length, a width and a depth;
- the bottom wall joined to each side wall;
- the bottom wall having a curved section and a planar section;
- the curved section having a first side and a second side;
- the planar section having a first side and a second side;
- the first side of the curved section being joined to the bottom of a first side wall;
- the second side of the curved section being joined to the first side of the planar section; and

the second side of the planar section being joined to the bottom of a second side wall that is opposed to the first side wall.

13. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein the cartridge comprises:

side walls;

the cartridge having a length, a width and a depth;

a bottom wall joined to each side wall;

the bottom wall having an curved section and a planar section;

the curved section having a first side and a second side;

the planar section having a first side and a second side;

the first side of the curved section being joined to the bottom of a first side wall;

the second side of the curved section being joined to the first side of the planar section;

the second side of the planar section being joined to the bottom of a second side wall that is opposed to the first side wall;

a third and fourth side walls opposed to one another;

the third and fourth side walls interjoining the first and second side walls;

the first and second side walls having a rib; and

the third and fourth side walls having a groove.

14. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein the cartridge comprises:

a first side wall, a second side wall, a third side wall and a fourth side wall;

each side wall having a top and a bottom;

each side wall having a length and a depth;

the cartridge having a length, a width and a depth;

a bottom wall joined to each side wall;

the bottom wall having a curved section and a planar section;

the curved section having a first side and a second side;

the planar section having a first side and a second side;

the first side of the curved section being joined to the bottom of a first side wall;

the second side of the curved section being joined to the first side of the planar section;

the second side of the planar section being joined to the bottom of a second side wall that is opposed to the first side wall; and

a plurality of parallel ribs on the first and second side walls.

15. A dispenser for storing and dispensing a plurality of separably joined wipes, comprising:

a cartridge comprising a bottom wall and at least one side wall extending from the bottom wall, the walls connected together to define a chamber and an opening in the chamber located at a top portion of the side wall opposite the bottom wall;

a cover removably fastenable to the top portion of the side wall, the cover and cartridge cooperating to seal the plurality of separably joined wipes in the chamber;

the cover comprising a top and at least one top side wall extending from the top wherein the top side wall and the side wall each have at least a portion extending past the other and at the portion each engages the other in an interference relationship; and

an elongated dispensing passage disposed adjacent the top portion of the side wall wherein wipes from the plurality of separably joined wipes can be dispensed from the chamber by the wipes passing directly between the cover and the top portion of the side wall and out the dispensing passage when the cover is fastened to the cartridge.

16. The dispenser of claim 15 wherein the elongated dispensing passage is formed in the cover.

17. The dispenser of claim 16 wherein the elongated dispensing passage comprises a rib projecting from the cover toward the top portion.

18. The dispenser of claim 17 wherein the rib extends a length of the elongated dispensing passage.

5 19. The dispenser of claim 15 wherein the elongated dispensing passage extends a length co-extensive with a width of the wipes.

10 20. The dispenser of claim 15 wherein the top portion of the side wall comprises a lip extending outwardly about the top portion of the side wall and the cover is attachable to the lip and wherein the elongated dispensing passage extends from above the lip to below the lip.

15 21. The dispenser of claim 16 wherein the top portion of the side wall comprises a lip extending outwardly about the top portion of the side wall and the cover is attachable to the lip and wherein the elongated dispensing passage extends from above the lip to below the lip.

20 22. The dispenser of claim 15 wherein the cartridge comprises:  
a plurality of walls comprising side walls and a bottom wall  
each side walls having a top and a bottom;  
each side wall having a length and a depth;  
the cartridge having a length, a width and a depth;  
two opposed side walls corresponding to the length of the  
cartridge;  
25 the other two opposed side walls corresponding to the width of  
the cartridge;  
the bottom wall joined to each side wall;  
the bottom wall having an curved section and a planar section;  
the curved section having a first side and a second side;  
30 the planar section having a first side and a second side;  
the first side of the curved section being joined to the bottom of  
a first side wall;

the second side of the curved section being joined to the first side of the planar section;

the second side of the planar section being joined to the bottom of a second side wall that is opposed to the first side wall;

a lip;

the lip joined to the top of a side wall;

the lip extending outwardly from the top of the side wall; and, the cover contacting the lip.

23. A method for storing and dispensing a plurality of separably joined wipes, comprising:

providing a cartridge having a chamber with the plurality of separably joined wipes in the chamber, the plurality of separably joined wipes having a seal over them to seal the plurality of separably joined wipes from an environment;

removing the seal from the plurality of separably joined wipes;

fastening a removably self-fastening cover to the cartridge over the chamber to seal the plurality of separably joined wipes in the chamber;

dispensing wipes from the chamber by passing wipes between the cover and the cartridge and out an elongated dispensing passage when the cover is fastened to the cartridge.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein providing comprises providing the cartridge with a bottom wall and at least one side wall extending from the bottom wall, the walls connected together to define the chamber and an opening in the chamber located at a top portion of the side wall opposite the bottom wall.

25. The method of claim 23 wherein dispensing further comprises causing the wipes to travel in a first direction and then in a second direction as the wipes travel into and then out the elongated dispensing passage and wherein the second direction is at least partially opposite the first direction.

26. The method of claim 23 wherein dispensing further comprises separating a leading wipe from a trailing wipe after at least a portion of the trailing wipe is out of the chamber and the elongated dispensing passage.

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27. The method of claim 23 wherein fastening comprises friction fitting the cover to the cartridge.

28. The method of claim 23 further comprising:

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removing the cover from the cartridge;

mounting the cartridge with wipes in the chamber in a separate dispenser without use of the cover; and

dispensing wipes from the plurality of separably joined wipes from the separate dispenser.

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29. The method of claim 23 wherein providing comprises providing a roll of wet wipes.

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30. The method of claim 23 wherein providing comprises providing the seal attached to the cartridge over the chamber.

31. A method for storing and dispensing a plurality of separably joined wipes, comprising:

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providing a cartridge having a chamber with the plurality of separably joined wipes in the chamber, the cartridge having a seal over the chamber to seal the plurality of separably joined wipes in the cartridge;

removing the seal from the cartridge;

fastening a cover to the cartridge over the chamber to seal the plurality of separably joined wipes in the chamber wherein the cover comprises a top and at least one top side wall extending from the top wherein the top side wall and a side wall from the cartridge each have at least a portion extending past

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~~the other and at the portion each engages the other in an interference~~  
relationship; and

dispensing wipes from the chamber by passing wipes between the  
cover and the cartridge and out an elongated dispensing passage when the  
cover is fastened to the cartridge.

32. The dispenser of claim 1 wherein the cartridge and the cover are each  
made of a material having a flexibility characteristic in the range of semi-rigid  
to rigid.

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